GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1905
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2001
WHOLE SALE PRICE INDEX
AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the weekly rate of Wholesale Price Index and Consumer Price Index of essential commodities during the last six months:

(b) the weekly rate of inflation on point-to-point basis during the above period:

(a) the reasons for the continuous increase in the WPI, CPI and the rate of inflation; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to check the prices of essential commodities and to contain the inflation rate ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL)

(a) & (b) The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) is computed on a weekly basis while the Consumer Price Index (CPI) is brought out only on a monthly basis with a one-month lag.

The WPI and CPI of essential commodities (covering 30 commodities) and the inflation rates based on these two indices during the last six months are annexed in Statement 1.

(c) & (d) As is evident from Statement 1 (annexed), price rise in essential commodities has been very moderate during the current financial year both at the wholesale and retail level.

In order to contain prices, Government monitors both the demand and supply sides of inflation very closely. It not only follows an effective supply management policy to ensure adequate availability of essential commodities of mass consump tion at reasonable prices, but also adopts measures on the demand side to control inflationary pressures. These include bringing about greater fiscal discipline, and regular monitoring of monetised deficit and broad money (M3) growth.

Statmet-1

Table-1

WPI and CPI of Essential Commodities and Rate of inflation in Essential Commodities

Month	WPI-ess (Base:1993-94=100)	Inflation rate(%) based on WPI-ess	CPI-ess (Base: 1982=100)	Inflation rate(%) based on CPI-ess
2000-01				
January	161.3	6.0	422	3.4
February	160.5	5.8	418	3.0
March	161.5	3.0	419	2.9
April	163.7	1.4	421	1.2
May	164.3	1.0	424	1.4
June	164.5	1.1		

+ Average of Weeks

WPI-ess: Wholesale Price Index of ssntial Commodities
CPI-ess: Consumer Price Index of ssntial Commodities

Table-2

WeeklyMovement of Wolesale Price Index of Essential Commodities & inflation based on WPI of Essential Commodities

Month	Week-Date	WPI-ess	Inflation rate(%)

2000-01

January	06/01/01	161.4	6.3
	13/01/01	161.8	6.6
	20/01/01	161.2	5.8
	27/01/01	161.0	5.3
February	03/02/01	160.3	5.1
	10/02/01	160.8	6.1
	17/02/01	160.3	6.0
	24/02/01	160.7	6.2
March	03/03/01	160.7	3.6
	10/03/01	161.0	3.6
	17/03/01	161.5	3.8
	24/03/01	161.9	0.6
	31/03/01	162.1	0.7
April	07/04/01	163.3	1.1
	14/04/01	164.0	1.4
	21/04/01	163.5	1.5
	28/04/01	164.0	1.3
May	05/05/01	164.1	1.0
	12/05/01	164.5	1.3
	19/05/01	164.4	0.6
	26/05/01	164.2	1.1
June	02/06/01	164.1	1.1
	09/06/01	164.7	1.1
	16/06/01	165.0	1.0
	23/06/01	164.5	1.0
	30/06/01	164.3	0.4
July	07/07/01	164.9	1.2
	14/07/01	164.0	1.1